

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer

The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors by James D. Hornfischer: A Riveting Tale of Valor and Sacrifice

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer is more than just a title—it's a gripping testament to the courage and resilience of the U.S. Navy's destroyer crews during some of the fiercest battles in the Pacific Theater of World War II. James D. Hornfischer's masterful storytelling brings to life the harrowing experiences of these often-overlooked warriors, the so-called "tin cans," whose small, lightly armored ships stood as the thin but unyielding line against overwhelming enemy forces.

If you're fascinated by naval history or simply captivated by stories of bravery under fire, this book offers a deep dive into the human spirit amidst chaos and destruction. Let's explore what makes Hornfischer's work a standout in military literature and why the stories of these destroyer sailors continue to resonate decades later.

The Heart of the Story: What Are "Tin Can Sailors"?

Before delving into Hornfischer's narrative, it's important to understand who the "tin can sailors" were. The nickname "tin can" refers to the Fletcher-class and other destroyers used by the U.S. Navy during World War II. These ships were relatively small and lightly armored compared to battleships and cruisers, making their crews particularly vulnerable in battle.

Despite their size, destroyers were critical in naval warfare for their speed, maneuverability, and versatility. They performed a variety of roles, including escorting aircraft carriers, hunting submarines, and engaging enemy surface ships. The sailors aboard these vessels had to be constantly vigilant, often facing deadly kamikaze attacks, torpedoes, and intense gunfire.

Hornfischer's book captures the essence of this unique service, highlighting the grit and determination required to survive and fight on these "tin cans."

James D. Hornfischer's Narrative Style: Bringing History to Life

One of the reasons **the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer** stands out in the crowded field of WWII literature is Hornfischer's vivid and immersive writing style. He doesn't just list facts or recount battle strategies; instead, he paints a detailed picture of the sailors' daily lives, their fears, camaraderie, and the split-second decisions that meant life or death.

A Blend of Historical Detail and Human Stories

Hornfischer's meticulous research shines through every page. He draws from official reports, personal diaries, and interviews with surviving veterans to create a comprehensive and authentic portrayal. Yet, what truly sets his work apart is how he weaves these details into compelling narratives centered on individual sailors and officers.

This approach gives readers a front-row seat to the chaos of naval battles like the Battle off Samar, part of the larger Leyte Gulf engagement in 1944, where destroyer crews faced off against a vastly superior Japanese fleet. The tension, confusion, and heroism come alive in Hornfischer's prose, making it impossible to put the book down.

The Battle off Samar: The Last Stand

At the core of Hornfischer's book is the Battle off Samar, arguably one of the most dramatic and unlikely naval engagements in history. Here, a small group of U.S. destroyers and escort carriers confronted a powerful Japanese task force including battleships and cruisers.

David vs. Goliath in the Pacific

The "tin can sailors" were vastly outgunned and outnumbered, yet they fought with incredible tenacity. Hornfischer details how destroyer crews used every trick in the book—launching torpedoes, laying smoke screens, and making daring close-range attacks—to protect the escort carriers and buy time for reinforcements.

It's a story of sacrifice where many ships were lost, but their actions helped blunt the Japanese offensive, turning the tide in the Pacific War. Hornfischer's vivid accounts ensure that readers understand not only the tactical significance but also the personal cost borne by these sailors.

Lessons in Leadership and Courage

Beyond the adrenaline-pumping battle scenes, **the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer** offers timeless lessons in leadership under pressure. The officers aboard these destroyers had to make critical decisions rapidly, often with incomplete information and while under constant threat.

What Modern Readers Can Learn

- **Decisiveness Under Fire:** The commanders' ability to act swiftly often made the difference between survival and destruction.
- **Teamwork and Trust:** The destroyer crews exemplified how cohesion and trust within a tight-knit unit can overcome daunting odds.
- **Adaptability:** Facing an unexpected enemy force, the sailors had to improvise tactics on the fly.

For anyone interested in leadership, these stories provide valuable insights into managing stress, uncertainty, and responsibility.

Why This Book Matters Today

Though rooted in World War II history, Hornfischer's work resonates with readers today for several reasons. First, it shines a spotlight on an often underappreciated group—destroyer sailors—whose contributions were crucial but sometimes overshadowed by larger ships and more famous battles.

Secondly, the themes of resilience, sacrifice, and courage are universal and timeless. In an era where the pace of life is relentless and challenges come in many forms, these stories remind us of the human capacity to endure and prevail.

Impact on Naval History and Popular Culture

The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors has influenced not only historians but also filmmakers and authors seeking to capture the authentic experience of naval warfare. Its detailed depiction of naval tactics and the gritty reality of shipboard life helps preserve the legacy of these sailors for future generations.

Tips for Readers Interested in Naval History

If you find the story of the tin can sailors compelling, here are some ways to deepen your understanding and appreciation:

- **Explore Related Books:** Hornfischer also wrote "Neptune's Inferno," which covers the Battle of Guadalcanal, another pivotal naval conflict involving destroyers.
- **Watch Documentaries:** Visual documentaries about naval battles can help contextualize the tactics and

environment described in the book.

- **Visit Naval Museums:** Many museums feature exhibits on WWII destroyers and naval warfare, offering a tangible connection to the history.
- **Engage with Veteran Accounts:** Oral histories and interviews provide personal perspectives that enrich the understanding of these battles.

Final Thoughts on the Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors

James D. Hornfischer's **the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer** is a compelling tribute to bravery, sacrifice, and the indomitable will of sailors who faced overwhelming odds. Through meticulous research and gripping narrative, Hornfischer ensures their stories are not forgotten, making this book essential reading for anyone interested in World War II naval history.

Whether you are a history buff, a student of military strategy, or someone who simply loves a good story of heroism, the journey Hornfischer takes you on is both educational and deeply moving. The legacy of the tin can sailors lives on through this powerful work, reminding us that courage can shine brightest in the direst moments.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors' by James D. Hornfischer about?

It is a nonfiction book that details the heroic and desperate naval battle fought by a small group of American destroyers and destroyer escorts against a much larger Japanese fleet during the Battle off Samar in World War II.

Who are the 'Tin Can Sailors' referred to in the book's title?

The 'Tin Can Sailors' refers to the crews of the American destroyers and destroyer escorts, which were lightly armored ships often nicknamed 'tin cans' due to their thin hulls.

Why is the Battle off Samar considered significant in naval history?

The Battle off Samar is significant because a small, outgunned American task unit bravely engaged a

superior Japanese fleet, demonstrating extraordinary courage and tactical ingenuity, which helped protect the larger American invasion force during the Leyte Gulf campaign.

What themes does James D. Hornfischer explore in the book?

Hornfischer explores themes of courage, sacrifice, leadership, and the brutal realities of naval warfare, highlighting the human stories behind the battle and the resilience of the sailors involved.

How has 'The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors' been received by readers and critics?

The book has been widely praised for its detailed research, gripping narrative, and respectful portrayal of the sailors' bravery, making it a popular and influential work in the genre of military history.

Additional Resources

The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors by James D. Hornfischer: A Definitive Naval History

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer is a compelling historical narrative that delves into one of the most harrowing and heroic episodes of naval warfare during World War II. This meticulously researched book by James D. Hornfischer chronicles the fierce battle of the destroyer squadron in the Battle off Samar, part of the larger Battle of Leyte Gulf in 1944. Hornfischer's work stands out not only for its vivid storytelling but also for its analytical depth, providing readers and historians alike with a detailed examination of the courage and resilience displayed by the so-called "tin can sailors," named for their lightly armored destroyers.

In-Depth Analysis of The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors

James D. Hornfischer's narrative expertly balances tactical military analysis with human drama, presenting the story of the U.S. Navy's destroyers and escort carriers that faced overwhelming Japanese forces. The book highlights the strategic significance of the Battle off Samar, where a small group of American ships confronted a far superior enemy fleet including battleships, cruisers, and aircraft carriers. Hornfischer's detailed account brings to light how these lightly armored destroyers, often dismissed as "tin cans" due to their thin hulls, executed a desperate and courageous stand that prevented a potential disaster in the Pacific theater.

Hornfischer's prose is notable for its clarity and precision, making complex naval maneuvers accessible to a broad audience. His use of primary sources, including firsthand accounts from surviving sailors, enriches the narrative and lends authenticity to the portrayal of the physical and psychological challenges faced by the crew members. The book also explores the leadership of commanders such as Captain Ernest E. Evans,

whose bold decisions under fire became emblematic of the squadron's valor.

Historical Context and Strategic Importance

Understanding the broader context of the Battle of Leyte Gulf is crucial to appreciating the significance of the events described in "The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors." This battle represented the largest naval engagement of World War II and was pivotal in the Allied campaign to liberate the Philippines from Japanese occupation. Hornfischer situates the destroyer squadron's stand within the larger naval strategy, illustrating how their actions disrupted the Japanese plan and contributed to the eventual Allied victory.

The narrative sheds light on the disparity in firepower and armor between the American destroyers and the Japanese fleet. Despite being outgunned and outnumbered, the American sailors leveraged speed, maneuverability, and sheer determination to engage enemy battleships and cruisers. This David-versus-Goliath scenario is a recurring theme, underscoring the tactical ingenuity and indomitable spirit of the tin can sailors.

Characterization and Human Element

One of the strengths of Hornfischer's work lies in its portrayal of the sailors themselves. The book does not merely recount technical details of naval warfare; it delves into the psyche of the men who served aboard these vulnerable ships. Through vivid descriptions and personal anecdotes, readers gain insight into the camaraderie, fear, and resolve that defined the crew's experience.

Hornfischer's focus on individual stories, such as that of Captain Evans, enriches the narrative by humanizing the broader historical events. These personal dimensions deepen the reader's engagement and highlight the cost of war beyond statistics and battle outcomes.

Comparative Assessment of Naval Literature

When compared with other notable naval histories of World War II, "The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors" stands out for its detailed focus on destroyer warfare, a subject often overshadowed by larger capital ships and carrier battles. While books like Samuel Eliot Morison's "History of United States Naval Operations in World War II" offer comprehensive overviews, Hornfischer's work fills a niche by spotlighting the valor and strategic impact of smaller warships.

The book also excels in its narrative style, combining scholarly rigor with readability. This balance appeals to both military historians and general readers interested in naval history, making it a valuable addition to literature on the Pacific War.

Key Themes and Features of The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors

- **Heroism under fire:** The book emphasizes the extraordinary bravery of destroyer crews facing overwhelming odds.
- **Tactical innovation:** Hornfischer analyzes how destroyer tactics evolved during the battle to counter larger enemy vessels.
- **Leadership qualities:** The narrative highlights decisive leadership in moments of crisis, particularly the actions of Captain Evans.
- **Technological disparity:** The contrast between the lightly armored American destroyers and heavily armed Japanese battleships is a recurring focus.
- **Survivor accounts:** Extensive use of personal testimonies adds depth and authenticity to the historical record.

Impact on Modern Naval Warfare Understanding

The insights provided in Hornfischer's book contribute to a nuanced understanding of destroyer roles in modern naval warfare. By documenting how these ships performed under extreme conditions, "The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors" informs current naval doctrine and training programs. The book's detailed analysis of damage control, crew coordination, and rapid decision-making continues to resonate with naval professionals and strategists.

Critique and Limitations

While widely praised, the book is not without its critiques. Some historians argue that Hornfischer's heroic narrative occasionally borders on hagiography, potentially glossing over strategic missteps or broader operational failures. Additionally, the focus on American perspectives may underrepresent Japanese viewpoints, limiting a fully balanced understanding of the battle dynamics.

Nevertheless, these critiques do not diminish the book's overall contribution to naval history but rather invite readers to engage with the material critically and in conjunction with other sources.

The last stand of the tin can sailors James D. Hornfischer captures a pivotal moment in naval warfare with remarkable detail and empathy, immortalizing the bravery of a small group of sailors who faced overwhelming adversity. Hornfischer's work remains an essential read for those seeking to comprehend the complexities of naval combat and the indelible human spirit that defines it.

The Last Stand Of The Tin Can Sailors James D Hornfischer

the last stand of the tin can sailors James D hornfischer: The Last Stand of Tin Can Sailors Estate of James D. Hornfischer, 2021-11-03 Adapted from the naval history classic and New York Times bestseller, *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors* pieces together the action of the Battle off Samar, bringing to life a riveting story of heroism against daunting odds, duty, and sacrifice in a way never seen before. In October 1944, Allied forces began landing on the Philippine island of Leyte. Quickly assessing the threat of the Allied invasion, the Japanese navy sought to counterattack. But with the island protected by the full strength of Admiral William F. Halsey's Third Fleet, a direct attack was nearly impossible. Undeterred, the Japanese Admiralty deployed their forces, engaging the Third Fleet and retreating in a manner that drew the fleet into a hot pursuit. However, Admiral Halsey had been deceived, and the Japanese plan had taken his fleet out of position to defend the American beachhead. With the northern route to Leyte open and unguarded, the Japanese Center Force—a fleet led by the battleship Yamato, the largest and most powerful battleship ever constructed—seemingly had a clear path to the landing beaches on Leyte. Only one thing stood between the Japanese forces and the vulnerable objective. Taffy 3, a small task unit from the Seventh Fleet was made up of destroyers, destroyer escorts, and escort aircraft carriers; thirteen ships with little firepower and even less armor. On the morning of October 25, 1944, Taffy 3 suddenly became the only obstacle between the Allied landings and the Japanese Center Force. Hopelessly outmanned and outgunned, Taffy 3 plunged into battle. The ensuing action, known as the Battle off Samar, became one of the greatest last stands in naval history.

the last stand of the tin can sailors James D hornfischer: Summary of James D. Hornfischer's The Last Stand of The Tin Can Sailors Everest Media, 2022-03-04T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 On January 20, 1944, three months before the commissioning ceremony that would make it a US Navy warship, the hull of DE-413, its prow festively draped in red, white, and blue bunting, slid off the ways at the Brown Shipbuilding Company in Houston and entered the Houston Ship Channel with a roaring sidelong splash. #2 Rohde had skills the Navy valued. He was a proficient typist and had learned Morse code in radio club at Curtis High School. He was eventually assigned to the Navy Training School in Boston, where radiomen were trained. #3 The genius of the Navy's personnel system was that it sorted young men by their talents, trained them for specialized duties, and sent them to places where their knowledge was most needed. #4 The men of the Roberts were not homesick at all. They were excited about what was in store for them in the Pacific.

the last stand of the tin can sailors James D hornfischer: The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors James D. Hornfischer, 2008-11-12 "This will be a fight against overwhelming odds from which survival cannot be expected. We will do what damage we can." With these words, Lieutenant Commander Robert W. Copeland addressed the crew of the destroyer escort USS Samuel B. Roberts on the morning of October 25, 1944, off the Philippine Island of Samar. On the horizon loomed the mightiest ships of the Japanese navy, a massive fleet that represented the last hope of a staggering empire. All that stood between it and Douglas MacArthur's vulnerable invasion force were the Roberts and the other small ships of a tiny American flotilla poised to charge into history. In the tradition of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Flags of Our Fathers*, James D. Hornfischer paints an

unprecedented portrait of the Battle of Samar, a naval engagement unlike any other in U.S. history—and captures with unforgettable intensity the men, the strategies, and the sacrifices that turned certain defeat into a legendary victory. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James D. Hornfischer's *Neptune's Inferno*. Praise for *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors* “One of the finest WWII naval action narratives in recent years, this book follows in the footsteps of *Flags of Our Fathers*. . . . Exalting American sailors and pilots as they richly deserve. . . . Reads like a very good action novel.”—Publishers Weekly “Reads as fresh as tomorrow's headlines. . . . Hornfischer's captivating narrative uses previously classified documents to reconstruct the epic battle and eyewitness accounts to bring the officers and sailors to life.”—Texas Monthly “Hornfischer is a powerful stylist whose explanations are clear as well as memorable. . . . A dire survival-at-sea saga.”—Denver Post “In *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors*, James Hornfischer drops you right into the middle of this raging battle, with 5-inch guns blazing, torpedoes detonating and Navy fliers dive-bombing. . . . The overall story of the battle is one of American guts, glory and heroic sacrifice.”—Omaha World Herald

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: *Shipmates* Gary Burns, 2016-09-27 In late 1944, 78 U.S. Navy sailors and officers climbed aboard a ship just 150 feet long and 23 feet wide, and headed toward the sound of gunfire. One of a class of gunboats known as mighty midgets, LCS 52 carried an arsenal equal to ships twice its size. Yet its shallow draft enabled it to maneuver to within a few hundred feet of any beach. Packed inside the tiny craft, the diverse crew were farmers, students, cooks and teachers. They ranged from age 17 to middle-aged—a few had seen combat in the Atlantic and the Pacific. This book tells the story of the ship's extensive service in World War II's Pacific Theater. Most of the crew survived the war, as did LCS 52 itself, serving in the U.S. Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force until 1958, when it was decommissioned and used for artillery practice. A roll call of crew members is included, with biographical information when available.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: *The Rough Guide to the Philippines (Travel Guide eBook)* Rough Guides, 2023-04-01 This practical travel guide to the Philippines features detailed factual travel tips and points-of-interest structured lists of all iconic must-see sights as well as some off-the-beaten-track treasures. Our itinerary suggestions and expert author picks of things to see and do will make it a perfect companion both, ahead of your trip and on the ground. This Philippines guide book is packed full of details on how to get there and around, pre-departure information and top time-saving tips, including a visual list of things not to miss. Our colour-coded maps make the Philippines easier to navigate while you're there. This guide book to the Philippines has been fully updated post-COVID-19. The Rough Guide to THE PHILIPPINES covers: Manila; Northern Luzon; Southern Luzon; Mindoro; Boracay and the Western Visayas; Cebu and the Eastern Visayas; Palawan; Mindanao. Inside this Philippines travel guide you'll find: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EVERY TYPE OF TRAVELLER Experiences selected for every kind of trip to the Philippines, from off-the-beaten-track adventures in Batanes to family activities in child-friendly places, like Tagaytay or chilled-out breaks in popular tourist areas, like Manila. PRACTICAL TRAVEL TIPS Essential pre-departure information including Philippines entry requirements, getting around, health information, travelling with children, sports and outdoor activities, food and drink, festivals, culture and etiquette, shopping, tips for travellers with disabilities and more. TIME-SAVING ITINERARIES Includes carefully planned routes covering the best of the Philippines, which give a taste of the richness and diversity of the destination, and have been created for different time frames or types of trip. DETAILED REGIONAL COVERAGE Clear structure within each sightseeing chapter of this Philippines travel guide includes regional highlights, brief history, detailed sights and places ordered geographically, recommended restaurants, hotels, bars, clubs and major shops or entertainment options. INSIGHTS INTO GETTING AROUND LIKE A LOCAL Tips on how to beat the crowds, save time and money and find the best local spots for hiking, diving, food, surfing or learning about history. HIGHLIGHTS OF THINGS NOT TO MISS Rough Guides' rundown of Cebu, the Eastern Visayas, Palawan and

Mindanao's best sights and top experiences helps to make the most of each trip to the Philippines, even in a short time. HONEST AND INDEPENDENT REVIEWS Written by Rough Guides' expert authors with a trademark blend of humour, honesty and expertise, this Philippines guide book will help you find the best places, matching different needs. BACKGROUND INFORMATION Comprehensive 'Contexts' chapter of this travel guide to the Philippines features fascinating insights into the Philippines, with coverage of history, religion, ethnic groups, environment, wildlife and books, plus a handy language section and glossary. FABULOUS FULL COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY Features inspirational colour photography, including the stunning Panglao Island and the spectacular Negros. COLOUR-CODED MAPPING Practical full-colour maps, with clearly numbered, colour-coded keys for quick orientation in Subic Bay, Donsol and many more locations in the Philippines, reduce the need to go online. USER-FRIENDLY LAYOUT With helpful icons, and organised by neighbourhood to help you pick the best spots to spend your time.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: Interpreting Naval History at Museums and Historic Sites Benjamin J. Hruska, 2016-08-09 Interpreting Naval History at Museums and Historic Sites demonstrates the broad appeal of naval themed commemoration, centering on military aspects from both times of war and peace. Transcending place and time, naval history is shaped into public forums for modern day consumption. These occurrences are not limited to just recent history, as can be seen in the celebration of man's long history of transforming bodies of water from barriers into opportunities. In addition, with the modern day nation-state naval history is not just limited to areas near large bodies of water, as seen with landlocked states in the United States sharing in a proud naval tradition. Examples of this included in the book are USS Arizona, BB-39, and USS Missouri, BB-63.) Naval history is just one avenue, with sites marking the history of immigration, engineering technology, and architecture.. Naval history also extends into lighthouses and port facility construction which are the background of a host of U.S. Generals in the U.S. Army with the Army Corps of Engineers, which includes the Robert E. Lee. Using an international approach, the book illustrates the intersection of the historical understanding of one's place and naval traditions. Locating the boundaries, one finds both the depth and breath of the topics linking (and dividing) water and man.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: Naval Warfare 1919-45 Malcolm H. Murfett, 2008-11-04 Naval Warfare 1919-45 is a comprehensive history of the war at sea from the end of the Great War to the end of World War Two. Showing the bewildering nature and complexity of the war facing those charged with fighting it around the world, this book ranges far and wide: sweeping across all naval theatres and those powers performing major, as well as minor, roles within them. Armed with the latest material from an extensive set of sources, Malcolm H. Murfett has written an absorbing as well as a comprehensive reference work. He demonstrates that superior equipment and the best intelligence, ominous power and systematic planning, vast finance and suitable training are often simply not enough in themselves to guarantee the successful outcome of a particular encounter at sea. Sometimes the narrow difference between victory and defeat hinges on those infinite variables: the individual's performance under acute pressure and sheer luck. Naval Warfare 1919-45 is an analytical and interpretive study which is an accessible and fascinating read both for students and for interested members of the general public.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: Sea of Thunder Evan Thomas, 2007-11-06 Drawing on oral histories, diaries, correspondence, postwar testimony from both American and Japanese participants, and interviews with survivors, Thomas provides this riveting account of the Battle of Leyte Gulf in 1944, the culminating battle of the war in the Pacific. Photos.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: The Ambassador's Son Homer Hickam, 2007-04-01 It's 1943 and the Americans and Japanese are fighting a deadly war in the hot, jungle-covered volcanic islands of the South Pacific. The outcome is in doubt and a terrible blow has fallen on American morale. Lieutenant David Armistead, a Marine Corps hero and cousin of the President of the United States, is missing and some say he's gone over to the enemy. Coast Guard Captain Josh Thurlow and his ragtag crew are given the assignment to find Armistead, though not

necessarily to bring him back alive. Recruited in the hunt is a tormented and frail PT-boat skipper nicknamed Shafty who is also known by another name: John F. Kennedy. When Josh is stranded in the jungles of New Georgia with a mysterious, sensual woman who has a tendency to chop off men's heads, it's up to Kennedy to come to the rescue and complete the mission. But to procure a gunboat, he first has to play high-stakes poker with a young naval supply officer called Nick who happens to be the best gambler in the South Pacific. Nick has another name, too: Richard M. Nixon. Based solidly on historical fact with echoes of James Michener, *The Ambassador's Son* is a thrilling tale of the South Pacific and adventure fiction at its finest.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: *Honor Untarnished* Donald V. Bennett, 2003-06-01 What the bestsellers *Flags of Our Fathers* was to Iwo Jima and *Duty to the Mission* of the *Enola Gay*, *Honor Untarnished* is to the World War II tour of duty of young graduate of a West Point. Whether it was fighting Rommel's fierce Afrika Korps hitting the beaches of Normandy on D Day, surviving the Battle of the Bulge, or just being in the next room during the infamous slapping incident of Blood-n-Guts General George Patton, Donald Bennett experienced the fiery crucible of World War II and survived to tell about it. As a recent graduate of West Point, First Lieutenant Bennett was given the charge of training inexperienced and scared recruits, and leading them into battle against the Axis forces. From orientation at Fort Sill, Oklahoma through the fiercest battles of the war right up to the liberation of the death camps and our complicit confrontation with the Soviet Union over Eastern Europe, Don Bennett, not yet thirty, preserved the honor of the corps, and the liberty of the free world. Lindbergh, Patton, Bradley, and Eisenhower are just names in a history book to most-but to Don Bennett they were personal acquaintances. This is the story of D Day, the Bulge, and the rest of the war. It differs from many recent books on similar events ... because Don Bennett was actually there! At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: *First Into Nagasaki* George Weller, Anthony Weller, 2006-12-26 George Weller was a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter who covered World War II across Europe, Africa, and Asia. At the war's end in September 1945, under General MacArthur's media blackout, correspondents were forbidden to enter both Nagasaki and Hiroshima. But instead of obediently staying with the press corps in northern Japan, Weller broke away. The intrepid newspaperman reached Nagasaki just weeks after the atomic bomb hit the city. Boldly presenting himself as a U.S. colonel to the Japanese military, Weller set out to explore the devastation. As Nagasaki's first outside observer, long before any American medical aid arrived, Weller witnessed the bomb's effects and wrote "the anatomy of radiated man." He interviewed doctors trying to cure those dying mysteriously from "Disease X." He typed far into every night, sending his forbidden dispatches back to MacArthur's censors, assuming their importance would make them unstoppable. He was wrong: the U.S. government censored every word, and the dispatches vanished from history. Weller also became the first to enter the nearby Allied POW camps. From hundreds of prisoners he gathered accounts of watching the atomic explosions bring an end to years of torture and merciless labor in Japanese mines. Their dramatic testimonies sum up one of the least-known chapters of the war—but those stories, too, were silenced. It is a powerful experience, more than 60 years later, to walk with Weller through the smoldering ruins of Nagasaki, or hear the sagas of prisoners who have just learned that their torment is over, and watch one of the era's most battle-experienced reporters trying to accurately and unsentimentally convey to the American people scenes unlike anything he—or anyone else—knew. Weller died in 2002, believing it all lost forever. Months later, his son found a fragile copy in a crate of moldy papers. This historic body of work has never been published. Along with reports from the brutal POW camps, a stirring saga of the worst of the Japanese "hellships" which carried U.S. prisoners into murder and even cannibalism, and a trove of Weller's unseen photos, *First into Nagasaki* provides a moving, unparalleled look at the bomb that killed more than 70,000 people and ended WWII. Amid current disputes over the controlled embedding of journalists in war zones and a government's right to keep secrets, it reminds us how such courageous rogue reporting is still essential to learning the truth.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: Expeditionary Surgery at Sea Matthew D. Tadlock, Amy A. Hernandez, 2023-03-16 Currently, no comprehensive practical surgical textbook or other reference exists for the management of injured and other surgical patients at sea. This text focuses on the increasingly important field of medical and surgical management of patients in the modern expeditionary maritime environment. The editors and contributors to this new handbook are a group of physicians, nurses, and corpsmen with extensive experience in caring for patients in the expeditionary maritime environment, designing and implementing current doctrine and policy, and publishing peer-reviewed articles focused on these topics. This handbook takes the approach of a how to manual for the management of combat or disaster victims, beginning at the point of injury and proceeding through each stage of care until they leave the maritime environment. This includes sections on prehospital care, triage, en-route care, and maritime mass casualty management, as well as additional chapters covering unique aspects of maritime platforms, capabilities, and missions. The bulk of the book focuses on the initial patient evaluation and resuscitation as well as the operative and perioperative phases of care including prolonged casualty care. The primary focus throughout the book is on simple, practical, and proven practices that can be easily understood and implemented by physicians and independent providers of any experience level who may find themselves in similar situations. For the clinical chapters, each begins with a clinical vignette relevant to the chapter based on actual patients or maritime scenarios experienced by the authors demonstrating the various challenges that can occur caring for injured and surgical patients at sea while deployed on maritime and amphibious platforms. When appropriate, each clinical chapter will conclude by describing the recommended management and outcome of the patient(s) presented in the vignette that opened the chapter. The style is plain and direct language, avoiding scientific jargon and unnecessary complexity whenever possible. Each chapter begins with 5 to 10 bullet points that summarize the key information or "BLUF" (bottom line up front) from that chapter and conclude with common tips and pitfalls, as well as recommended high-yield resources for the entire maritime surgical team.

the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: On Dixie Station Michael R. Taylor, 2024-06-14 Vietnam, America's anguish. As the nation's Baby Boomers grew into maturity mid-century the nation and the world was undergoing dramatic changes. The end of the Eisenhower Era brought about Kennedy's Camelot, the resurgence of the Civil Rights Movement, Women's Liberation, and tragedies of the JFK, RFK and MLK assassinations. As the Cold War dragged on and China Opened the threat of World Communist domination and the Domino Theory engulfed America in conflicts in the Caribbean, Latin America, Angola, Berlin, Prague, and Southeast Asia. From a small detachment of military advisors in 1962, the United States commitment to the Federal Republic of South Vietnam grew to over 500,000 troops by the end of the Sixties. Failure to secure a quick victory brought about demands for increased resources and manpower. Dissatisfaction with the war lead to anti-war protests, Draft avoidance and eventually to the horrific events at Kent State. From 1962 until 1975 over 3,400,000 served in the Vietnam Conflict with over 58,000 dying in battle and more than 11,000 succumbing to non-combat related incidents. The experiences the veterans had in Vietnam came home with them and dramatically changed the nation even to this day. On Dixie Station is about the experiences three young naval officers had while in-country. All three were in their early twenties, just graduated from college and experiencing military life, one as investigator for the Navy's Investigative Service in Da Nang and the other two as young officers serving on a destroyer in the South China Sea. Each of them and their peers face challenges they never envisioned happening to them. It's a story of personal growth, tragedy, danger, and discovery. It involves battles, horrific crimes, and coming of age. It's a dramatic picture of life in a war zone. About the Author Michael R. Taylor has degrees in International Relations, Public Administration, and Central & Eastern European Studies. He did post-graduate work in Environmental Planning and attended the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY in 1967-68. He has worked as a Municipal Manager, Environmental Project Manager, Construction Executive, Association Executive, and Magazine Publisher and Editor. He was the Principal Writer of the National Demolition

Association's Demolition Safety Manual which became the bible for safe work practice for the Demolition Industry around the world. He lives with his wife, Nancy in Doylestown, PA and Vero Beach, FL.

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the last stand of the tin can sailors james d hornfischer: Sea Cobra Buckner F. Melton, 2007-03-01 One of the costliest battles of World War II happens to be one of the least known. After failing to stop the attack of Admiral Takeo Kurita at Leyte Gulf, Admiral "Bull" Halsey made a desperate attempt to engage the Japanese Imperial Navy in a full-scale battle. Acting against better judgment and in a desperate attempt at redemption, Halsey led his crew into the raging path of a typhoon, which resulted in the loss of nearly one thousand sailors—the most costly mission of the Pacific war.

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course of the war. Lieutenant Commander Gar Hammond-an aggressive, attacking leader with a reckless streak-may be the navy's only hope to locate and stop the Japanese super-ship before it launches...if it even exists. Sentinels of Fire: Set against the blazing gun battles and kamikaze attacks created by the last desperate offensive of the Japanese navy, the officers of the USS Malloy grapple with consequences that could cost them the ship itself and the lives of everyone on board.

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